

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE REQUESTED FILING OF RULE 1.53(B)  
CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION BASED ON  
THE FOLLOWING PENDING PRIOR PATENT APPLICATION:

In re Application of: Parviz Tayebati et al.  
Serial No.: 10/167,378  
Filed: 6/11/2002  
For: OPTICAL SWITCHING AND ATTENUATION  
SYSTEMS AND METHODS THEREFOR  
Group Art Unit: 2872  
Examiner: J. Phan  
Attorney's Docket No.: CORE-4147 DIV

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 3, please insert the following:

-- Reference To Prior Patent Application

This is a continuation of prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/167,378, filed 6/11/2002 by Parviz Tayebati et al. for OPTICAL SWITCHING AND ATTENUATION SYSTEMS AND METHODS THEREFOR, which is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/281,406, filed 03/30/1999 by Parviz Tayebati et al. for OPTICAL SWITCHING AND ATTENUATION SYSTEMS AND METHODS THEREFOR, which patent application claims benefit of (i) U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/079,994, filed 03/30/1998 by Tayebati et al. for OPTICAL SWITCHING USING MICRO-ELECTROMECHANICAL TECHNIQUE, and (ii) U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/105,940, filed 10/28/1998 by Azimi et al. for VARIABLE OPTICAL ATTENUATOR. --

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